

News Release

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Corps lakes still holding flood water

FORT WORTH, Texas – Widespread rains are over at the present time with scattered thunderstorms continuing over Texas. Tuesday night's storms extended along the Red River from Gainesville to Texarkana with rainfall accumulations totaling from 2.0 to 2.5 inches. The runoff from this rain will flow into Ray Roberts, Lavon, and Jim Chapman Lakes, operated by the Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Jim Chapman Lake rose into the flood pool Tuesday for the first time in four years. Of the 24 District lakes that have a flood pool, all have risen into the flood pool at some time during this flood event, with the exception of O.C. Fisher Lake.

Approximately 1 million acre-feet of flood water is currently stored in the six Corps lakes in the upper Trinity River Basin. Due to downstream channel constraints at Dallas and Rosser, it is expected that flood releases will continue past Labor Day weekend. Should thunderstorms continue, the lakes will remain in the flood pool until mid-September.

An acre-foot of water is about equal to a football field covered one foot deep in water. So, in comparison, 1 million acre-feet is a football field covered 190 miles deep in water.

Even with the on-going flood releases from Belton, Stillhouse, and Granger Lakes, due to the high inflows, the lakes continue to rise. There are five lakes in the Little River system (Proctor, Belton, Stillhouse, Georgetown, and Granger) that are storing a combined total of about 1.35 million acre-feet of flood water. The release from these five lakes will keep the Little River at Cameron flowing at bank full until early September.

For current lake conditions, call the lake office nearest you or visit http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil/drought/drought.htm.

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Check out the Fort Worth District Web Site at www.swf.usace.army.mil or Reservoir Control's Web Site at http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil.